

Oral Questions

contravention of the new principles of international business conduct to which I referred, does the minister plan to take action to ensure that RCA observes the government's guidelines and so reverse this totally irresponsible decision?

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Hon. Donald C. Jamieson (Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce): Mr. Speaker, the chief executive officer and other officers of RCA called on me late last week and indicated their intention to undertake what would have to be described as substantial corporate structural changes. I expressed my disappointment over what was being planned.

Some hon. Members: Oh, oh!

Mr. Woolliams: You had a long face.

Mr. Jamieson: Whatever I may have in this House I do not think any hon. member looking at me can feel I would ever have a long face. I have a round one. In any event, we undertook to have further consultations and I asked them for considerably more detail as to what their intentions are and as to whether or not they will in fact be breaching what has been described as good behaviour guidelines. I will report to the hon. member in the House later on those meetings.

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HARBOURS**CHURCHILL—REQUEST FOR REINSTATEMENT OF PORT MANAGER**

Mr. Cecil Smith (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, my question is for the Minister of Transport. The port of Churchill is considered a remote port because of its mid-Canada location. The port's remoteness demands on the spot decisions by an experienced port manager during its 88 day grain shipping season. Will the minister take immediate action to have the present port manager reinstated so that this port can carry on with one of its most important grain shipping seasons in the history of the port without further delay or restructuring?

Hon. Otto E. Lang (Minister of Transport): No, Mr. Speaker, although I do appreciate the hon. member's complimentary remarks about the record season which will be accomplished in Churchill this year. I can also assure the hon. member that there will be adequate management but a new man.

Mr. Smith (Churchill): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is to the same minister. I certainly cannot agree with his remarks. I feel that this port is now being placed in jeopardy with the changing of the port manager and the restructuring. Will the minister assure us at this time that there will be a port manager in Churchill within the next ten days to get the season underway?

Mr. Lang: Mr. Speaker, I can assure the hon. member that the port of Churchill has been given a great deal of attention. The chairman of the National Harbours Board in

[Mr. Maine.]

fact visited the port himself in the last week and is giving personal attention to make sure that the port is indeed effective in its operations.

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ENERGY**REQUEST MINISTER ADJUDICATE DISPUTE BETWEEN QUEBEC AND NEWFOUNDLAND OVER CHURCHILL FALLS POWER—REFERENCE TO ENERGY BOARD**

Mr. James A. McGrath (St. John's East): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources. Today in the Newfoundland legislature Premier Moores has announced that unless Quebec were able to provide an agreement with Newfoundland by May 31 on the recall of 800 megawatts of power up to 1982 from the Churchill Falls agreement there would be recourse to whatever legal means the province has at its disposal. Is the minister prepared to adjudicate the dispute between the two provinces to avoid what could be a very serious confrontation, or at best is he prepared to instruct the National Energy Board to refuse to provide the province of Quebec with any more export licences to sell their surplus Churchill Falls power to New York state?

Hon. Alastair Gillespie (Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources): Mr. Speaker, I am not certain that it is the role of a federal minister to adjudicate a dispute between two provinces. However, if the two provinces came to me and said, "We want to see whether we can work out an arrangement which would solve our separate problems", and perhaps assist in some way the Maritime provinces as well, I would be delighted to sit down with them.

Mr. McGrath: In view of the fact that Newfoundland, like its sister Atlantic provinces, will have a very serious energy shortage by 1980 and hence it is absolutely essential that we be able to recall power from Churchill Falls which is now going into the Quebec grid and a lot of it going to ConEd in New York State, may I ask the minister if he is prepared to refer this matter to the National Energy Board to reassess the whole export licence program that has been given to Quebec to sell this power to New York?

Mr. Gillespie: I think that the matter is now before the National Energy Board. I think there is an application to export by the province of Quebec before the National Energy Board, and undoubtedly the board will take note of the hon. member's representations.

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GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION**REQUEST FOR INCREASED FUNDS FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH—PROPOSED FIVE-YEAR FUNDING PROGRAM**

Mr. David Orlikow (Winnipeg North): Mr. Speaker, I should like to direct a question to the President of the Treasury Board in the absence of the Minister of National Health and Welfare. In view of the large and imposing delegation representing the medical research communities across Canada and their associated voluntary associations